



TRANSPORTATION CABINET

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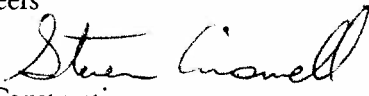
Steven L. Beshear
Governor

Michael W. Hancock, P.E.
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

Construction Memo 09-10

TO: Chief District Engineers
District TEBMs for Project Delivery & Preservation
District Section Engineers

FROM: Steven Criswell, P.E. 
Director, Division of Construction

DATE: November 4, 2010

SUBJECT: Use of Warm Mix Asphalt Technology Outside of Current Temperature Limitations

Representatives of the Cabinet, Federal Highway Administration, Plantmix Asphalt Industry of Kentucky, and various paving contractors recently met to consider using warm mix asphalt at temperature limitations beyond those currently outlined in our standard specifications. Current specifications require a minimum ambient air temperature and minimum surface temperature prior to asphalt placement. The Cabinet and the Federal Highway Administration are in agreement to consider requests to lower these temperature limitations on an experimental basis for warm mix asphalt only. On a trial basis, the Cabinet may allow lowering the temperature limitations for base warm mix asphalt to 33 degrees Fahrenheit and surface warm mix asphalt to no less than 35 degrees Fahrenheit. Despite these changes, all other requirements of the specifications, including density, mixture properties, and a finished pavement free from segregation or other blemishes, shall remain the same. Approval for this experimental change will be granted on a project-by-project basis.

Contractors must request permission through the Section Engineer in writing to participate in this trial. The Director of Construction will review and provide a recommendation on each request. Approval to lower the temperature restrictions will be contingent upon the contractor producing and placing a high quality asphalt mixture at lower temperatures. Approval to participate in this trial will be revoked if the contractor fails to achieve adequate field density, fails to meet mixture properties

For the purposes of this trial, an asphalt mixture will be considered "warm mix asphalt" when approved technologies such as water injection, chemical additives, or wax additives have been utilized in the mix. All information given by Construction Memo No. 02-09 still apply.

Information provided by the FHWA Warm Mix Asphalt Technical Working Group demonstrates the ability to successfully place warm mix asphalt at lower temperatures. It is the Department's desire to gain experience with warm mix asphalt and to see the product succeed. However, we also want to ensure that the finished product is not compromised.

Please contact this office with any questions that you may have.

cc:	S. Waddle	KAHC
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